Claim 25 (New). The method of claim 24, wherein the pathological condition associated with overstimulation of T cells is staphylococcal toxic shock syndrome.--

(C) The specification of the instant application has been amended as indicated below.

(i) The paragraph beginning at line 9 of page 10 of the specification is replaced with the following:

--In carrying out the method of the present invention, isolation and/or purification of the Map protein or of the Map19 protein, or other active fragments or domains of the Map protein, can be accomplished in a number of suitable ways as would be recognized by one skilled in the art. For example, both the Map protein and the Map19 protein may be produced recombinantly using conventional techniques well known in the industry. With regard to the Map19 protein (SEQ ID NO: 2), one such suitable method would be through expression in *E. coli* (e.g., JM101 from Qiagen®, Chatsworth, CA) harboring the appropriate plasmid (11-16). In this method, *E. coli* was grown at 37° C in LB containing the appropriate antibiotics until they reached an A_{600} of 0.6 (17). Isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) (Life Technologies) was added to a final concentration of 0.2 mM, and the cells were incubated at 37°C for an additional 4 hours. Cells from a 1 L culture were harvested by centrifugation and resuspended in 10 ml "binding buffer" (BB) (20 mM Tris HCl, 0.5 M NaCl, 15 mM imidazole, pH 8.0) and lysed in a French pressure cell at 11,000 pounds/inch^2 (13). The lysate was centrifuged at 40,000 x g for 15 min and the supernatant filtered through a 0.45 μm filter. A 1 ml iminodiacetic acid ~~Sepharose~~ SEPHAROSE column (Sigma, St. Louis, MO) was charged with 75 mM $NiCl_2.6H_2O$ and equilibrated with BB. The filtered supernatant was applied to the column and washed with 10 volumes of BB, then 10 volumes of BB containing 60 mM imidazole. The bound proteins were eluted with BB containing 200 mM imidazole, dialyzed against PBS containing 10 mM EDTA, then dialyzed against PBS (13). Protein concentrations were determined by the Bicinchoninic Acid (BCA) Protein Assay (Pierce) and proteins were stored at -20° C until use.--

(ii) The paragraph beginning at line 14 of page 28 of the specification has been replaced with the following:

--Expression and Purification of Recombinant Proteins

Recombinant Mapl9, DbpA SdrF, M55, CNA, ACE19 and ACE40 were expressed in *E. coli* (JM101) (Qiagen®, Chatswodh, CA) harboring the appropriate plasmid (11-16). *E. coli* was grown at 37° C in LB containing the appropriate antibiotics until they reached an A_{600} of 0.6 (17).

9.12.06